

THE BACCHAE

23

Till he be iudged and stoned, and
weep in blood
The day he troubled Pentheus with
his God !

*The guards set forth in two
bodies* PENTHEUS
goes into the Castle.

TEIRESIAS.

Hard heart, how little dost thou
know what seed
Thou sowest! Blind before, and
now indeed
Most mad — Come, Cadmus, let us
go our way.
And pray for this our persecutor,
pray
For this poor city, that the
righteous God
Move not in anger, — Take thine ivy
rod
And help my steps, as I help thine.
'Twere ill.
If two old men should fall by the
roadway. Still,
Come what come may, our service
shall be done
To Bacchios, the All-Father's mystic
son.
O Pentheus, named of sorrow!)
Shall he claim
From all thy house fulfilment of his
name.
Old Cadmus ? — Nay, I speak not
from mine art.
But as I see — blind words and a
blind heart!

*The two Old Men go
off towards the Mountain**

CHORUS.

*Some Maidens**

Thou Immaculate on high
Thou Recording Purity:
Thou that stoopest, Golden
Wing,
Earthward, manward,
pitying,
Hearst thou this angry King
?
Harest thou the rage and
scorn
Gainst the Lord of Many
Voices,
Him of mortal mother born,
Him in whom man's heart
rejoices,